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14 February 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR/INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT : Speaker for Air War College

REFERENCE: Letter of 6 February 1952 to DCI from General Edwards.

1. O/NE's principal expert on the "trends or indications of future Soviet actions and intent" is I think he would do an excellent job in lecturing on this subject. Another possibility is who is never at the game but is an experienced university lecturer and could certainly do a competent job.
2. However, from my own past experience I would doubt whether the Air War College would be receptive to men who did not have high rank and reputation in the outside world. Nevertheless, I am reluctant to nominate any member of the Board for two reasons: (a) No present member is nearly as expert on the subject as Messrs. (b) The Board is already pressed very hard and would feel keenly the loss of a member to prepare and deliver the lecture.
3. If I may go outside CIA's assigned staff I would suggest He is extremely interested in the subject and possesses a very definite noint of view. It should be recognized, however, that rates Soviet capabilities lower than many other observers and lower than Air Force Intelligence tends to do. This cuts both ways on his desirability.

SHERMAN KENT Assistant Director National Estimates

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